

**SYSTEM FOR SHARED POWER SUPPLY IN COMPUTER
PERIPHERAL DEVICES**

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A power sharing circuit in a peripheral device that can combine power from both an external power supply and from an internal power supply is disclosed. The external power supply could be a computer bus, for example. The power sharing circuit has power inputs from both the computer bus and from the internal power supply, and has an output that powers the load circuitry in the peripheral device. The power sharing circuit monitors power used by the load circuitry and determines from where the power that drives the load circuitry will originate. The power can originate from either the internal or external power supply, or from a combination of the power supplies. The power sharing circuit can modify the origin of power provided to the load circuitry based on how much power it is using.

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